*Government investment in the Travancore Bank, Ltd.*

198. * **Mr. Paul A. Thaliath :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of shares taken by Government in the Travancore Bank Ltd., and the amount paid on the same ;

(*b*) whether any amount has already been invested by them in the Bank as deposit ; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative, the total amount so invested as deposit ?

**Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar** (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) 80,000 shares to the face value of Rs. 20,00,000.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Rs. 10 lakhs in fixed deposit and 1 lakh in current account.

**Mr. Paul A. Thaliath :** May I know whether any amount has been deposited in any other local registered banks ?

**Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar :** No, Sir.

*Agreement with the Travancore Bank, Ltd.*

199. * **Mr. Paul A. Thaliath :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have entered into any agreement with the Travancore Bank Ltd. ; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, whether they would be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table.

**Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar :** (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

*Parliamentary Delegation.*

200. * **Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any of the Parliamentary Delegation members had been to Trivandrum in January 1946 ;

(*b*) whether the Government had invited any member of the legislature to meet them ;

(*c*) who were the members so invited ;

(*d*) the reason for selecting these alone ; and

(*e*) whether the selection was made on any principle, territorial or communal ?

**Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi** (*Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*), (*c*), (*d*) and (*e*) Those whom the Government considered might usefully meet the Delegation were invited bearing in mind that many delegates from the State Congress had already met the Delegation at Delhi and elsewhere and put forward their contentions and allegations before them. The Parliamentary Delegation

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were at full liberty to meet any one they chose and used their discretion in this matter.

A list* of the invitees is also laid on the table.

*Parliamentary Delegation.*

201. *Mr. K. S. Joseph: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any invitations were issued by or on behalf of Government to anybody to meet the Parliamentary Delegation that visited Travancore;

(*b*) on what principle the invitations were issued;

(*c*) why leaders of parties in both Houses of legislature were not invited; and

(*d*) whether Government insisted that the members of the Delegation should be State guests?

**Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi** (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Those whom the Government considered might usefully meet the Delegation were invited bearing in mind that many delegates from the State Congress had already met the Delegation at Delhi and elsewhere and put forward their contentions and allegations before them. The Parliamentary Delegation were at full liberty to meet anyone they chose and used their discretion in the matter.

(*c*) Does not arise in view of answer to (*b*).

(*d*) No; though they were treated as State guests.

**Mr. K. S. Joseph**: With reference to part (*b*) of my question, "why leaders of parties of both the Houses of the Legislature were not invited", the answer given is: "it does not arise". Am I to understand that Government thought the leaders of the House were undesirable?

**President**: Order, order, there is no question of desirability or undesirability in the matter. If time had permitted and if the Parliamentary Delegation had not decided upon spending 45 minutes for learning the affairs of Cochin State, and 16 hours for learning the affairs of Travancore, Government would have normally not only asked the leaders of parties and the members of legislature but also about a 100 or 150 people to meet them. And there was a fresh difficulty. A series of statements in the press, that the Parliamentary Delegation had declined the offer of this Government to accept their hospitality and that Retired Justice Mr. Thaliath and Mr. K. P. Abraham had been telegraphed to on the matter by the members of the Delegation and that they had

* *Vide* Appendix I—page

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